

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently amended) An apparatus for carrying out ~~[[the]]~~ a method according to ~~claim 1 in which a mixture of~~ for producing a respiratory filter comprising the steps of:
intermixing a granular absorbent, absorbent, chemisorptive, or catalytic material,
particularly activated carbon with a meltable polymer(s) to produce a mixture; and molding
the mixture in a connecting part so as to make a molded piece and a gastight connection
between the molded piece and inside surface of the connecting part so that the pressed
molded piece respectively engages in or partially encloses the groove or tongue and, so
that the molded piece and connecting part can be operatively connected as a unit to a
respirator or fan filter unit, wherein the intermixed granular adsorbent, absorbent,
chemisorptive, or catalytic material, particularly activated carbon, is heated under pressure
in a mold the connecting part with ~~[[a]]~~ the meltable polymer(s) and pressed into a molded
piece, ~~wherein the mold is a~~ the connecting part ~~for a respirator or fan filter unit and so that~~
there is a positive and/or non-positive gastight connection between said connecting part
and the compacted molded piece, wherein the connecting part comprises an inner surface
with a complete or partial groove or tongue which the pressed molded piece engages in
or partially encloses, respectively.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the connecting part comprises a periphery with fasteners on it's the periphery for a detachable gastight connection to a respirator or fan filter unit, or for a gastight connection to an adapter for connecting to a respirator or fan filter unit.

5. (Previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the connection to the adapter is detachable.

6. (Previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the fasteners are designed for a snap-in or threaded connection.

7. (Previously amended) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the connecting part is made of a polymer with a higher melting point than the polymer(s) of the molded piece, or of cardboard or metal.

8. - 12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously added) The apparatus according to claim 2 in combination with a respirator or fan filter unit wherein the respiratory filter is operatively connected directly to the respirator or fan filter unit.

14. (Previously added) The apparatus according to claim 2 in combination with a respirator or fan filter unit wherein the respiratory filter is operatively connected to the respirator or fan filter unit through an adapter.